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British Magazine Apologizes for KAL Flight Spy Story

United Press International

LONDON, Nov. 19—Korean Airlines accepted a public apology and a "substantial" sum of money today from a magazine that suggested the KAL Boeing 747 shot down by Soviets last year was on a spy mission coordinated with the United States.

Lawyers for KAL said the article in Defense Attache, a bimonthly British magazine devoted to defense matters, could not be "further from the truth."

Defense Attache reported in its third edition last year that KAL's Flight 007 was on a spy mission when shot down by a Soviet missile on Sept. 1, 1983, near Sakha-

lin Island off the Soviet Pacific Coast. All 269 persons on board were killed in the attack, which the airline said occurred when the plane—on a flight from New York to Seoul, via Anchorage—strayed into Soviet airspace.

"The effect of the article was that [our] client's aircraft was on a spy mission carefully and deliber-

ately coordinated with United States intelligence authorities," KAL lawyers said.

Lawyers for the magazine told the British high court in a public announcement that "there is no foundation for any suggestion that either Korean Airlines or any of its staff on the aircraft concerned took part in a spy mission."